

Amendments to the Claims

Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of interacting with a user of an elevator system having multiple elevator cars serving a plurality of floors with a graphical hall call device on one of the plurality of floors, the method comprising:

detecting and displaying on the graphical hall call device depictions of elevator cars accessible on the one floor;

displaying on the graphical hall call device respective assigned destinations for each depiction of an accessible elevator car;

receiving sequentially-entered, single numeric digit keypad entries designating a user desired destination; and

generating a destination confirmation event on the graphical hall call device in response to receiving a user desired destination ~~input from the user~~.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein generating a destination confirmation event comprises accentuating an accepted user desired destination ~~input~~.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein generating a destination confirmation event comprises textually describing an assignment status of the user desired destination ~~input~~.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein each elevator car includes a destination input ~~[[pane]]~~ panel inside of the elevator car, the method further comprising:

in response to a desired destination input on the destination input panel for an elevator ~~[[care]]~~ car not assigned apriori to the desired destination, assigning the desired destination to the elevator car; and

adding the new assigned destination to the respective depiction of the selected elevator car ~~display~~ on the graphical hall call device.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein a second floor of the plurality of floors contains a second graphical hall call device, the method further comprising:
 - detecting and displaying on the second hall call device elevator cars accessible on the second floor; and
 - displaying on the graphical hall call device assigned destinations for each elevator car accessible on the second floor.
6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting and displaying accessible elevator cars further comprises:
 - displaying a car assignment for each accessible elevator car in a spatial relationship corresponding to a ~~planform~~ plan view of the plurality of elevator cars.
7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
 - accessing an elevator ~~planform~~ plan view;
 - accessing configuration data for the graphical hall call device; ~~and~~
 - spatially orienting the elevator ~~planform~~ plan view relative to the configuration data; ~~and~~
 - depicting direction arrows on the plan view corresponding to a suggested direction of travel from the graphical hall call device to an entry door of the depiction of the assigned elevator car.
8. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein generating the destination confirmation event on the graphical hall call device in response to receiving the desired destination input from the user further comprises:
 - monitoring elapsed time since an initial numeric single digit keypad entry;
 - comparing the elapsed time to a threshold;
 - resetting the destination confirmation event on the graphical hall call device in response to determining that a user entry command indicating completion of floor entry has not occurred prior to the elapsed time exceeding the threshold.

9. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein generating the destination confirmation event on the graphical hall call device in response to receiving the user desired destination further comprises:

generating an error message on the graphical hall call device in response to a determination that no one elevator car accessible on the floor of the graphical hall call device services the user desired destination.

10. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting and displaying on the graphical hall call device elevator cars accessible on the one floor further comprises:

displaying in a plan form view on the graphical hall call device depictions of elevator cars physically accessible on the floor serviced by the graphical hall call device; and annotating a selected elevator car depiction in response to a determination that the selected elevator car is inoperative.

11. (new) An elevator hall call device positioned on a selected floor, interfaced to an elevator system having multiple elevator cars serving a plurality of floors, the elevator hall call device comprising:

a graphical display;
a numeric key pad comprised of at least 10 single numeric digit buttons; and
a controller operatively configured to detect elevator cars of the elevator system accessible on the selected floor, to display a plurality of elevator car depictions on the graphical display corresponding to the accessible elevator cars, to receive sequentially-entered, single numeric digit keypad entries designating a user desired destination, and to generate a destination confirmation event on the graphical display in response to receiving a desired destination input from the user.

12. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein the controller is further operatively configured to generate a destination confirmation event comprising accentuating an accepted destination input.

13. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein the controller is further operatively configured to generate a destination confirmation event comprising textually describing an assignment status of the desired destination input.
14. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein each elevator car includes a destination input panel inside of the elevator car, the controller further operatively configured to determine that a user desired destination on the destination input panel for an elevator car is not assigned apriori to the desired destination, to assign the desired destination to the elevator car, and to add the new assigned destination to the respective car display on the graphical hall call device.
15. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein the controller is further operatively configured to display a car assignment for each accessible elevator car in a spatial relationship corresponding to a plan view of the plurality of elevator cars.
16. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein the controller is further operatively configured to access an elevator plan view, to access configuration data for the graphical display, to spatially orient the elevator plan view relative to the configuration data on the graphical display, and to depict direction arrows on the elevator plan view on the graphical display corresponding to a suggested direction of travel from the graphical display to an entry door of depiction of the assigned elevator car.
17. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein the controller is further operatively configured to generate the destination confirmation event on the graphical hall call device in response to receiving the desired destination input from the user by monitoring elapsed time since an initial numeric single digit keypad entry, comparing the elapsed time to a threshold, and resetting the destination confirmation event on the graphical hall call device in response to determining that a user entry command indicating completion of floor entry has not occurred prior to the elapsed time exceeding the threshold.

18. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein the controller is further operatively configured to generate the destination confirmation event on the graphical hall call device in response to receiving the desired destination input from the user by generating an error message on the graphical display in response to a determination that no one elevator car accessible on the floor of the graphical hall call device services the desired destination.

19. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein the controller is further operatively configured to display in a plan form view on the graphical display depictions of elevator cars physically accessible on the floor serviced by the graphical hall call device, and to annotate a selected elevator car depiction in response to a determination that the selected elevator car is inoperative.

20. (new) The elevator hall call device of claim 11, wherein the controller is further operatively configured to receive a destination floor input from an elevator control positioned inside of a selected elevator car, to add the destination to the destinations assigned to the elevator car in response to a determination that the elevator car was not assigned a priori to that floor, and to annotate the added destination to a depiction of the selected elevator car on the graphical hall call device.

21. (new) An apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of elevator cars each respecting servicing at least a subset of a plurality of floors of a building;

circuitry operatively configured to assign destination floors for each elevator car of the plurality of elevator cars; and

an elevator hall call device positioned on a selected floor of the plurality of floors, interfaced to circuitry, the elevator hall call device comprising:

a graphical display,

a numeric key pad comprised of at least 10 single numeric digit buttons, and

a controller operatively configured to detect elevator cars of the elevator system accessible on the selected floor, to display a plurality of elevator car depictions on the graphical display corresponding to the accessible elevator cars, to receive sequentially-entered, single numeric digit keypad entries designating a user desired destination, and to generate a destination confirmation event on the graphical display in response to receiving a desired destination input from the user.